

Message Text

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ORIGIN ARA-17

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ADP-00 PM-07 DODE-00 L-03 RSC-01 /039 R

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7/3/73 EXT 23447

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P R 032213 Z JUL 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY MONROVIA

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 130641

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR MARR TD

SUBJECT: GOTT REQUEST FOR RETURN OF DEFENSE AREAS AND

TERMINATION OF RE- ENTRY RIGHTS

REF: PORT OF SPAIN 924 OF 7/25/72

FOR THE AMBASSADOR

1. YOU ARE HEREBY AUTHORIZED TO INFORM APPROPRIATE TRINIDAD OFFICIALS THAT FOLLOWING GOTT'S REQUEST OF LAST JULY REGARDING RETURN OF ALL REMAINING DEFENSE AREAS AND TERMINATION OF REMAINING US RE- ENTRY RIGHTS UNDER 1961 DAA, US MILITARY AUTHORITIES INITIATED DETAILED EXAMINATION OF OUR DEFENSE REQUIREMENTS IN TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO WITH VIEW TOWARD BEING AS RESPONSIVE AS POSSIBLE TO GOTT REQUEST. AS A RESULT, DEPT AND DOD ARE PREPARED (A) TO CLOSE DOWN THE OMEGA NAVAID STATION BY THE END OF DECEMBER 1977 AND (B) TO

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RETURN AS SOON AS POSSIBLE OTHER DEFENSE AREAS AS WELL AS TO TERMINATE REMAINING RE- ENTRY RIGHTS PROVIDED FOLLOWING CONDITIONS ARE MET:

(A) THAT USG SHIPS RETAIN PRIORITY DOCKING RIGHTS AND EXEMPTION FROM ALL PORT, DOCKING, PILOTAGE AND SIMILAR FEES AT PRESENT N-3 DOCKS UNTIL END OF CY77 AND THAT GOTT CONTINUE TO MAINTAIN PIERS: (B) THAT THE N-1 AREA BE RESERVED FOR EXCLUSIVE USE OF OMEGA STATION THROUGH DECEMBER

1977 AND THAT UNTIL ITS CLOSURE STATION PERSONNEL AND PROPERTY CONTINUE TO ENJOY RIGHTS AFFORDED UNDER PRESENT ARRANGEMENTS.

(C) THAT GOTT CONTINUE TO MAINTAIN ACCESS ROAD THROUGH N-3 AREA TO N-1 AREA:

(D) THAT EMBASSY CONTINUE TO OCCUPY WAREHOUSE HNAA IN N-3 AREA, UNLESS ALTERNATIVE WAREHOUSE SPACE AND ARRANGEMENTS SATISFACTORY TO EMBASSY ARE PROVIDED:

(E) THAT GOTT PROVIDE, BY COST- FREE OR NOMINAL- COST LEASE OR DEED TO EMBASSY, SMALL TWO ACRE PARCEL OF UNDEVELOPED LAND SURROUNDING EMBASSY RESIDENCE REFERRED TO IN POS' S A-67 OF JULY 31, 1972 AND PARA 6(D) OF REFTEL.

(F) PROVISIO " E" SHOULD BE PRESSED ONLY INSOFAR AS IT DOES NOT INTERFERE WITH THE RETENTION OF RIGHTS ENUMERATED IN " A" THROUGH " D".

2. WITH REGARD TO OMEGA, IF SPECIFICALLY ASKED, YOU MAY INFORM GOTT THAT THE OMEGA STATION IN LIBERIA WILL EVENTUALLY BE SUBSTITUTED FOR TRINIDAD STATION FOR THE FOLLOWING TWO REASONS: (A) OUR WISH TO COOPERATE AS FULLY AS POSSIBLE WITH GOTT PLANS FOR DEVELOPMENT OF CHAGUARAMAS AREA AND (B) TECHNICAL CONSIDERATIONS AND OMEGA SYSTEM GEOMETRY WHICH MAKE LIBERIA A MORE FAVORABLE SITE.

3. FYI: THE DECEMBER 1977 DATE FOR CLOSEDOWN OF THE OMEGA STATION IN TRINIDAD IS DUE TO CONSTRUCTION AND CLICONTIDENTIAL

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MATIC UNCERTAINTIES WHICH MAY BE ENCOUNTERED IN THE ERECTION OF THE LIBERIA STATION. A SECOND FACTOR CONCERNS THE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT EFFORT NOW UNDERWAY WITHIN THE U. S. GOVERNMENT WITH RESPECT TO THE GRAN (GLOBAL RESCUE ALARM NET). THE TRINIDAD OMEGA STATION WILL BE THE ONLY OMEGA TRANSMITTER CAPABLE OF BROADCASTING THE FREQUENCY REQUIRED FOR THIS EFFORT. BY 1977 THE SUCCESS

OR FAILURE OF THE GRAN R& D EFFORT WILL HAVE BEEN DETERMINED, AND THERE WILL BE NO FURTHER NEED FOR THE TRINIDAD STATION IN THIS CONNECTION. END FYI.

4. PREFER INITIAL APPROACH TO GOTT BE MADE VERBALLY AND AT LEVEL YOU DEEM APPROPRIATE. SPECIFIC TIMING LEFT TO YOUR DISCRETION. YOU MAY TELL GOTT THAT OUR PREFERRED METHOD OF HANDLING THESE ADJUSTMENTS IN DAA IS BY EXCHANGE OF NOTES FOLLOWING AGREEMENT ON THE POINTS OUTLINED IN

PARA 1 ABOVE.

5. WITH REGARD TO HANDLING PUBLIC RELATIONS ASPECTS OF THIS MATTER, COMPLETELY LOW KEY APPROACH APPEARS BEST COURSE, ALTHOUGH THIS DOES NOT PRECLUDE EMBASSY FROM QUIETLY MAKING OPINION LEADERS BOTH IN AND OUT OF GOVERNMENT AWARE OF OUR RESPONSE TO GOTT'S REQUEST AND OUR DESIRE TO BE AS FORTHCOMING AS POSSIBLE. RUSH

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